

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, as amended, in light of the remarks that follow are respectfully requested.

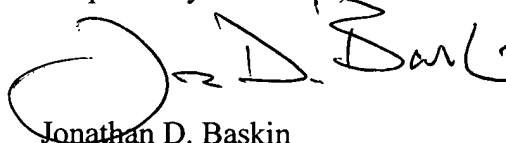
Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1, 2, 6-12 and 16-26 will be pending in the application, claims 3-5 and 13-15 having been cancelled.

By the amendments, the features of canceled claim 4 have been incorporated into claim 1; claims 6, 7, 16 and 17 have been rewritten in independent form; and the features of claim 14 have been incorporated into claim 10. Entry of the amendments is proper at least because they place the application in immediate condition for allowance. In this regard, allowable subject matter was noted with respect to claims 4, 6, 7, 14, 16 and 17, and claims 10 and 20 were previously allowed. Accordingly, the art rejections based on *Beranek et al* (U.S. Patent No. 5,896,481) alone or in combination with *Yoneda et al* (U.S. Patent No. 5,717,803) are now moot.

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order, and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at his earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



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